袴田めら
hakamada mera

ピザ食べよっ

salomelic
hakamada mera

h cari. om es

ピザ食べよっ

袴田めら

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salomelic
hakamada mera

袴田めら

さそりにっく

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めらめらん
Salomelic
Drawn by Mera Hakamada
袴田めら

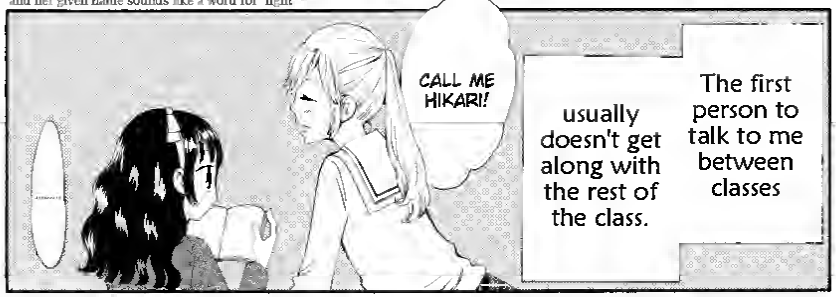
*note Salome's family name means "Dark/Black River"

A WITCH!
WHAT?!
EVERYONE'S SAYING THAT THE MOTHER AND DAUGHTER WHO JUST MOVED TO TOWN ARE A PAIR OF WITCHES!
No way!
giggle giggle
INFOR-MATION SURE SEEMS TO TRAVEL FAST HERE, EVEN THOUGH WE'RE OUT IN THE BOONDOCKS.
ACTUALLY, MAYBE THAT'S WHY IT SPREADS SO QUICK

HEY,
I'm fine.
KUROKAWA SALOME-CHAN!!

WELL, WHAT DOES IT MAT-TER?
WE WON'T BE HERE LONG.

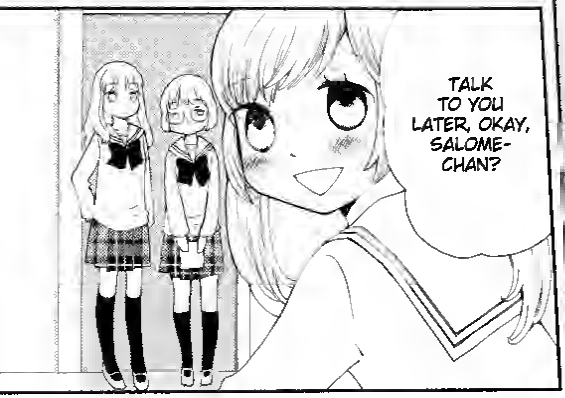
*note: Hikari's family name means "White Storehouse" and her given name sounds like a word for "light."

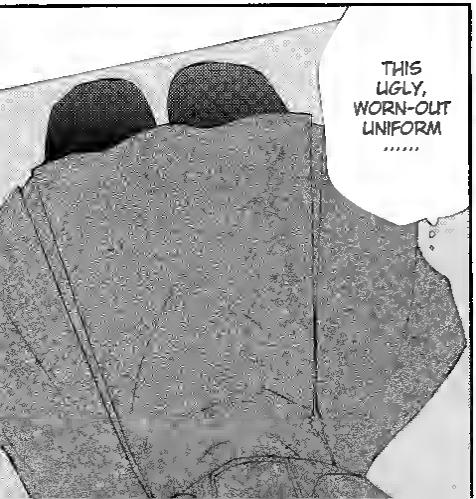


YES, I'M A PRACTICAL PERSON.
BUYING A NEW UNIFORM EVERY TIME I CHANGED SCHOOLS WOULD BE QUITE A FINANCIAL BURDEN, WOULDN'T IT?
BUT IT WOULD MEAN MORE THINGS WE'D HAVE TO MOVE.....
NOT THAT WE CAN'T AFFORD IT.
.....
DOES THAT MEAN
THAT YOU'LL BE TRANSFERRING AWAY? THAT SUCKS .....

I LIKE YOUR UNIFORM.
IT SUITS YOU! IT'S WONDER-FUL.
OH.....
W-WELL, MY MOTHER HAS TO MOVE AROUND A LOT FOR WORK, SO .....
IT LOOKS DARK AND MYSTE-RIOUS,
Y'KNOW?!

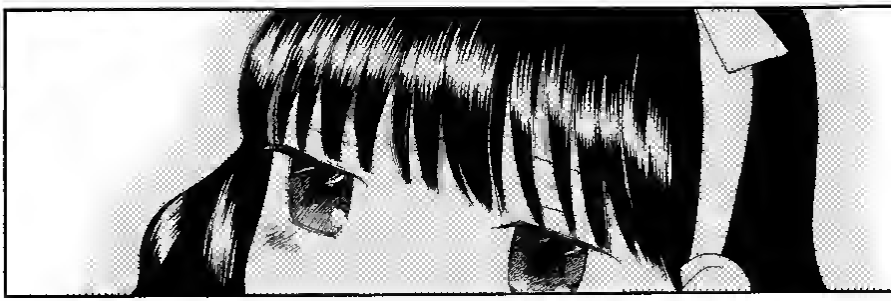
C'MON, HIKARI! WE'RE LEAVING!!
OH! OKAY, I'LL BE RIGHT THERE!

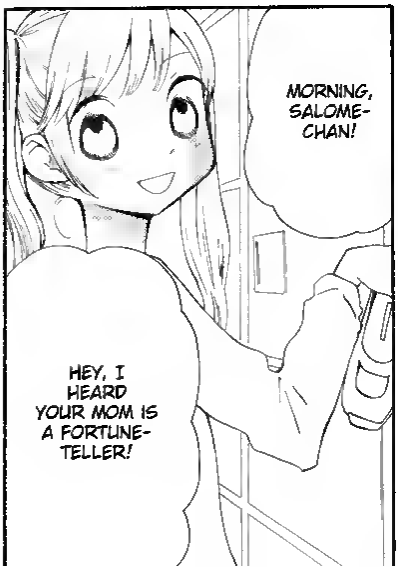

TALK TO YOU LATER, OKAY, SALOME-CHAN?


THIS UGLY, WORN-OUT UNIFORM .....

OH, SHE DOES HAVE FRIENDS .....?

I LIKE YOUR UNIFORM.
IT'S WONDERFUL.
IT LOOKS DARK AND MYSTERIOUS.




MORNING, SALOME-CHAN!
HEY, I HEARD YOUR MOM IS A FORTUNE-TELLER!

GOOD MORNING!
Morning!
Hi!

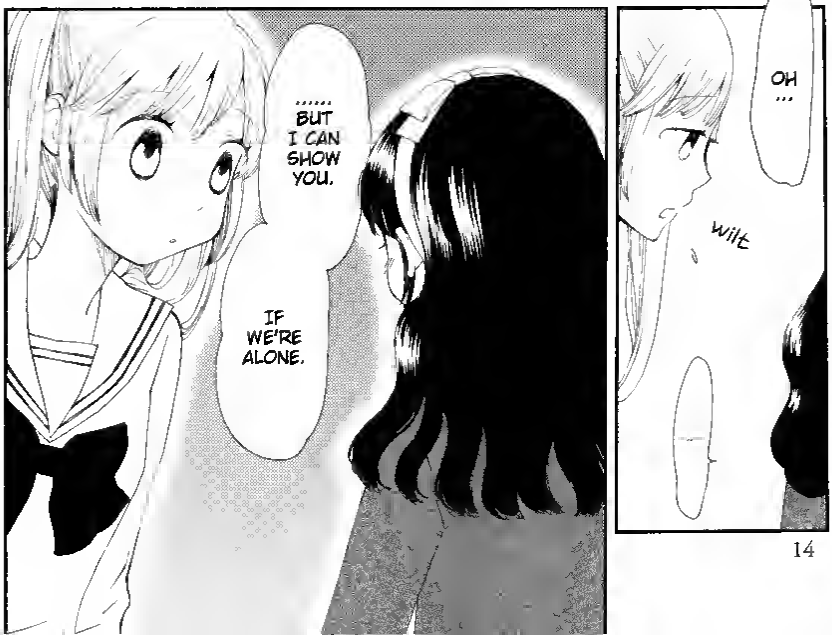
WELL, SHE DOES TELL FORTUNES
BUT SHE ALSO RACKS UP GAMBLING DEBTS AND THEN HAS TO RUN AWAY
NOT THAT I CAN SAY THAT.
YES
Not a morning person
I HEARD SHE DOES FORTUNES FOR IMPORTANT PEOPLE, AND THAT HER PREDICTIONS COME TRUE!!
UH-HUH
WOW! IS THAT WHY YOU TRANSFER SCHOOLS SO OFTEN? YOU MUST GO ALL OVER THE PLACE WITH HER!
I'D SAY SHE'S MORE LIKE A MEDIUM THAN A FORTUNE-TELLER.
SHE CAN SENSE THE SUPER-NATURAL.
IT'S NO HELP WITH GAMBLING, THOUGH
OH.
WOW!
BUT ...

FORTUNES
ARE BASED ON STATISTICS, OR CLEVERNESS WITH WORDS.
SO PEOPLE JUST THINK THEY COME TRUE.
THEY'RE NOT ANYTHING MIRACULOUS LIKE WHAT YOU'RE THINKING.
BUT NOT EVERYONE CAN MAKE PREDICTIONS LIKE THAT, RIGHT?
IT'S STILL AMAZING. SHE GETS A LOT OF STUFF RIGHT, DOESN'T SHE?

.....
IT'S WORTHLESS. A WASTE OF TIME.
THE TRUTH DOESN'T ALWAYS MAKE YOU HAPPY.

HUH? WOW!!
I'M BETTER AT MAGIC THAN FORTUNES!
CAN YOU MAKE PREDICTIONS, TOO?
HEY, SALOME-CHAN,
OH, HEY,
BUT I'VE GOTTEN PICKED ON FOR THAT BEFORE ……

HUH .....?
YOU CAN'T, HUH?
W-WELL, I DON'T EVEN SHOW MY MOM .....
SINCE SHE'D WANT ME TO HELP HER GAMBLE
WOULD YOU SHOW ME? JUST ME...?!


..... BUT I CAN SHOW YOU.
IF WE'RE ALONE.
OH ...
WHAT

THANKS, SALOME-CHAN!
.....REAL-LY?!
IT'LL BE OUR SECRET!

WHAT MAGIC SHOULD I DO FOR HER?
I BET MY MOM WOULD GET MAD IF I DID ANYTHING MAJOR.
HMM .....
MAYBE I'LL DO SOMETHING CUTE. THE SORT OF THING AN ORDINARY GIRL WOULD LIKE .....
HEY, HIKARI ...
!
WE DON'T GET IT.

WHY ARE YOU BEING NICE TO THAT WITCH?
THERE'S SOMETHING FISHY ABOUT HER.
AND ISN'T HER MOM THAT SHADY FORTUNE-TELLER THAT'S BEEN HANGING AROUND TOWN?
I HEARD SHE REALLY IS A WITCH.
SHE DID SOME WEIRD MAGIC AT HER OLD SCHOOL AND CAUSED ALL SORTS OF PROBLEMS.
REALLY? WHAT A NIGHTMARE!
YOU SHOULDN'T GET TOO CLOSE TO HER!
BUT—
I DON'T GET MAGIC! IT'S SCARY!

THE TEACHER TOLD US TO BE NICE TO HER!
So that's why.

YOU'RE SUCH A GOODY-TWO-SHOES, HIKARI.
YEAH!
Tehehe!
That's why she compli-mented me on my uniform
and acted interested in my magic.
Because I'm new here.
She was forcing herself to be nice to me.

THUD
!!
SALOME-CHAN
.....
DASH
SALOME-CHAN!!

SALOME-CHAN,
WAIT!

NO.....

I DIDN'T MEAN THAT THE WAY IT SOUND-ED!
AND THEY'LL COME AROUND, TOO! JUST GIVE IT TIME!

DON'T WORRY. I'LL BE LEAVING SOON.
I'M SORRY FOR THE TROUBLE I'VE CAUSED YOU.
PANT
PANT
AND FOR CREATING FRICTION BETWEEN YOU AND OUR CLASSMATES.
WHY ARE YOU BEING LIKE THIS .....?
SALOME-CHAN .....SALOME-CHAN, YOU—
.....WHAT?!

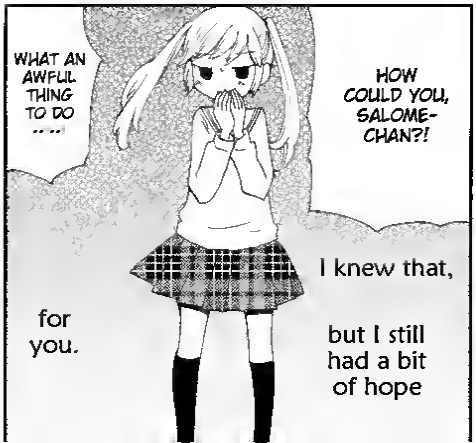
.....
YOU SAID YOU WANTED TO SEE ME DO MAGIC.
.....
NOTHING!!
?
!
ZI
NG
WHAT .....?

WH-WHAT WAS THAT LIGHT .....?
WHAT WERE YOU GOING TO SAY BEFORE?
I .....
I .....
YOU AGREE WITH THE OTHERS, DON'T YOU?
YOU WERE JUST PRETENDING TO BE NICE TO ME, RIGHT?
I'M TROUBLED BY YOU, SALOME-CHAN!!
! HUH?!! MY THOUGHTS ..... JUST CAME TUMBLING OUT .....!!
I PUT A SPELL ON YOU.

A SPELL THAT WILL ONLY LET YOU SAY WHAT YOU REALLY THINK.

The truth doesn't always make you happy.

THERE WAS NO MISUNDER-STANDING BEFORE AT ALL, WAS THERE?
YOU DON'T LIKE ME EITHER.


WHAT AN AWFUL THING TO DO ....
HOW COULD YOU, SALOME-CHAN?!
I knew that,
for you.
but I still had a bit of hope

I'm a fool. I should never have cast that spell on you.
I wish I'd never found out the truth.
I KNOW HOW YOU REALLY FEEL NOW, SO THERE'S NO NEED FOR YOU TO BOTHER BEING NICE TO ME FROM NOW ON.
YOUR FRIENDS MIGHT PICK ON YOU IF THEY SEE YOU WITH ME.
SALOME-CHAN
I
MIGHT AS WELL TELL YOU ..
THAT WHEN I SAID I'M TROUBLED BY YOU,
I MEANT THAT I'M TROUBLED BECAUSE YOU SAY COMPLICATED THINGS AND ACT ALL CLEVER,
BUT YOU DON'T SAY WHAT YOU'RE REALLY THINKING.

I WANT TO TALK TO THE REAL YOU!!
I WANT TO HEAR ABOUT YOUR FEELINGS
IN YOUR OWN WORDS!
Worthless.

I can't even say anything to make her happy.
SALOME-CHAN,
Getting a glimpse into someone's heart doesn't mean we'll suddenly be in matching uniforms.
My magic is worthless.

PLEASE BE MY FRIEND.
With those ordinary words,

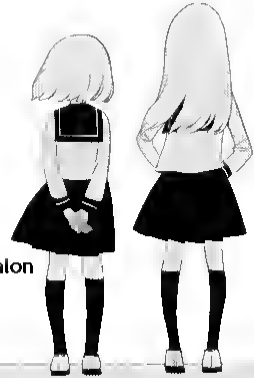
she effortlessly

captured
my heart.

End

Hakamada Mera

Salomelic
chapter 1



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Salomelic
ハンめら
袴田めら
Presented by Mera Hakamada

SO WHAT IF I AM?
YOU USED YOUR MAGIC TO GET A PERFECT SCORE ON THAT TEST, DIDN'T YOU?
THAT'S CHEATING.
HEY,
ARE YOU REALLY A WITCH?
WHAT?!
HEY, GUYS!
WHA... I WOULD NEVER!!
DON'T GO BLAMING ME JUST BECAUSE YOU DON'T KNOW HOW TO STUDY!

LET'S ALL STOP TALKING TO SALOME.
SALOME-CHAN!

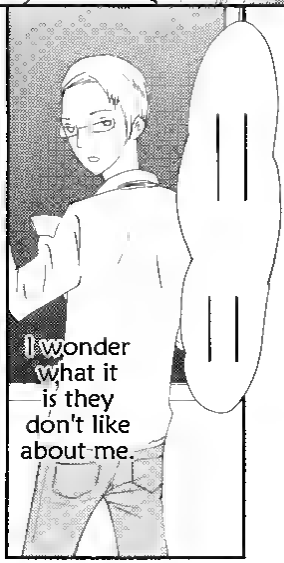
MORNING!

I have a friend now.
MORNING.
MORNING!

HMPH!
.....OH?
.....
MORONS.

I DON'T KNOW WHAT HAPPENED. THEY'RE SUPPOSED TO BE YOUR FRIENDS.
I THINK THEY'RE BEING CHILDISH.
THEY'RE PROBABLY JUST IN A BAD MOOD.
IT WILL BE ALL RIGHT.
I'M ON YOUR SIDE, SALOME-CHAN.
Hikari is so grown-up.

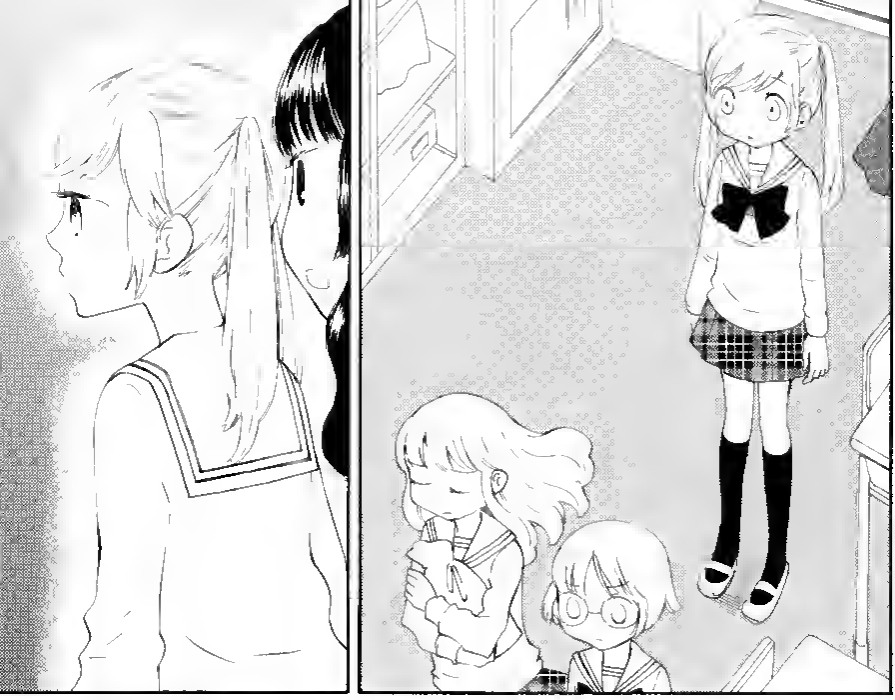
That I don't mince words?
That I'm smart?
Is it that I'm wearing a different uniform?
THIS IS...
COMPLETELY RIDICULOUS.


I wonder what it is they don't like about me.

JUST 'CAUSE YOU'RE A WITCH!
YOU THINK YOU'RE ALL THAT,

GOT IT!

Don't talk to Hikari.
DING DONG DING DONG
ARE YOU GUYS COMING T-.....
SALOME-CHAN, WE HAVE GYM NEXT!
LET'S GO CHANGE.



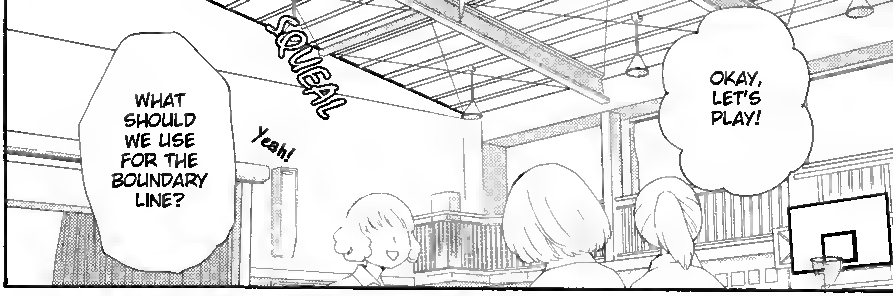
Don't look so sad.
Who cares what they think?
you .....
Don't let those idiots get to you, Hikari.

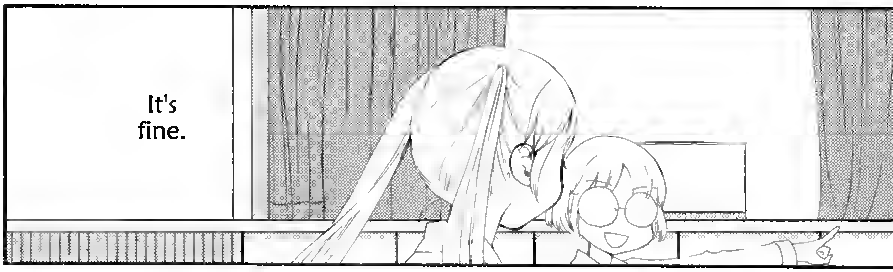
You have me, remember?
Sweet!
FOR REAL?!
WE GET TO CHOOSE WHAT TO DO IN GYM TODAY!
OKAY!
LET'S PLAY DODGEBALL!
.....NO!
CAN I JOIN IN?
COUNT ME OUT.
WE SHOULD GO PLAY WITH THEM!
OKAY.

WH-.....
WHY NOT? WHY ARE YOU ALL ACTING WEIRD?
DID I..... DO SOME-THING WRONG?
YOU CAN PLAY, BUT NOT WITH SALOME-SAN.
YOU CAN STILL DO STUFF WITH US IF YOU DON'T BRING SALOME-SAN ALONG.

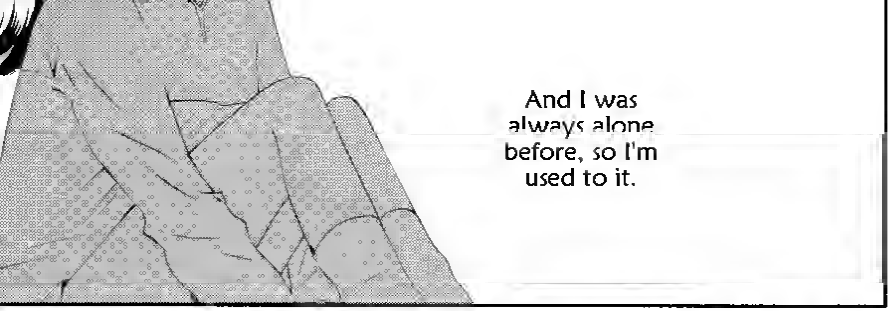
complete and utter imbeciles. Hikari won't be swayed by something like that.

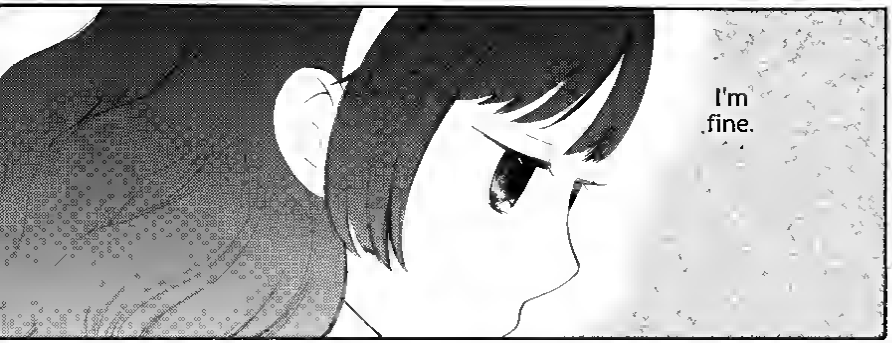
They're...


SQUEAL
WHAT SHOULD WE USE FOR THE BOUNDARY LINE?
Yeah!
OKAY, LET'S PLAY!


It's fine.

Besides, it's not like I'm going to be here forever. I'm sure we'll be moving again.
I'm too mature to get upset over a little thing like this.

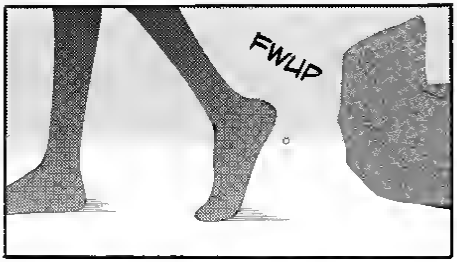

And I was always alone before, so I'm used to it.


I'm fine.

HIKARI!

IT'S RAINING, HUH?

OH ..... SHE HAD SOME DRINKS AND WENT OUT OF COURSE.
WEBISU
WEBISU
I'M HOME ...
ZSHH...


FWUP

MBUGH

stagger
stagger

I can wish her well, because I'm a grown-up.
I'm glad things are back to normal for Hikari.
MY HEAD HURTS .....
IT'S POUNDING.

Don't they realize that they're hurting someone they care about?
THEY WANT HIKARI ALL TO THEMSELVES.
HOW CHILDISH.
THEY DISGUST ME.
WHAT FOOLS.
.....
The girls in that class...

But I'm too mature to want to monopolize her time.
I wouldn't try to control her like they do.
Sure, I like spending time with Hikari.
Everything is more fun when she's around.

So there's no need for me to be sad.
I'm the one who's in the right here.
There's no reason for me to be this upset over it...
right about now.
but a smile from her would really lift my spirits
SALOME-CHAN.

SORRY. THE DOOR WAS OPEN, SO I CAME ON IN.
YOU OKAY?
YOU SHOULDN'T GO TO BED SOAKED. YOU'RE ALL RED.....
I'M FINE!! JUST LEAVE ME BE.
WH-WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?!
SORRY. I TRIED CALLING OUT TO YOU A BUNCH OF TIMES, BUT...
SALOME-CHAN, I'M SORRY ABOUT TODAY.
Right now...
WHAT I DID TO YOU WAS HORRIBLE .....
BUT AFTER THAT, I—
HIKARI!

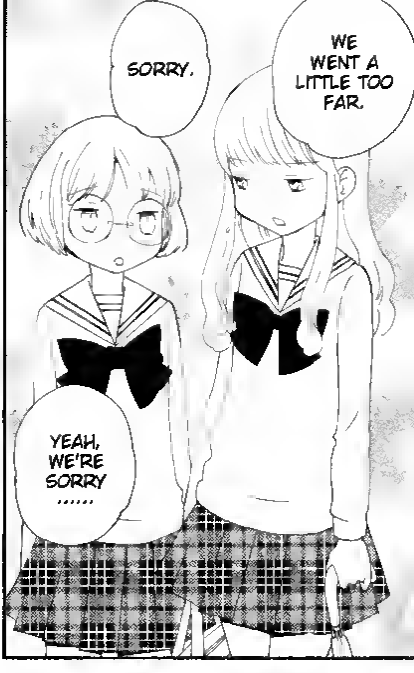
JUST GO!
YOU STABBED ME IN THE BACK!
BUT SALOME-CHAN...
I'VE HEARD ENOUGH!!
GO HOME!!
YOU'RE RIGHT.....
I'M SORRY.....

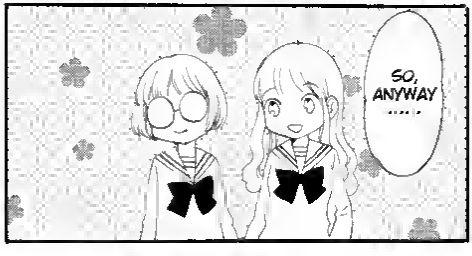
I'M REALLY SORRY.
The one who's hurting
PLEASE EAT THESE
BYE
I'LL GO NOW.
someone she cares about is.....

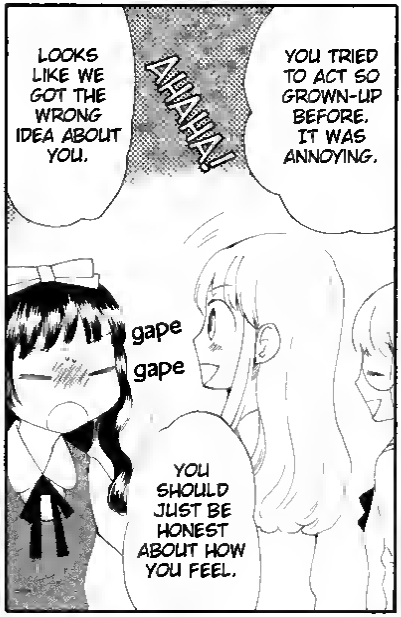
WAIT!!
SALOME-CHAN.
HOW COULD YOU, HIKARI?!
YOU WERE THE ONE WHO WANTED TO BE FRIENDS!
WHY DID YOU LEAVE?!

DON'T BE SO QUICK TO GIVE UP ON US!
STAY WITH ME.....!!
THAT REALLY HURT MY FEELINGS!!
trickle
trickle
IF YOU'RE MY FRIEND.....

...
SALOME-CHAN.....
OH, YOU BOTH CAME!
WE ALL TALKED ABOUT IT DURING GYM.
GUYS, I STILL WANNA BE FRIENDS WITH SALOME-CHAN!!
SO..... LET'S ALL BE FRIENDS WITH HER,
OKAY?!!
HEY, NEW GIRL...


SORRY.
WE WENT A LITTLE TOO FAR.
YEAH, WE'RE SORRY .....


SO, ANYWAY ....


LOOKS LIKE WE GOT THE WRONG IDEA ABOUT YOU.
AHAHA!
YOU TRIED TO ACT SO GROWN-UP BEFORE. IT WAS ANNOYING.
gape
gape
YOU SHOULD JUST BE HONEST ABOUT HOW YOU FEEL.

WE HEARD WHAT YOU JUST SAID TO HIKARI.
THAT WAS AWESOME! AND KINDA REFRESH-ING.
WHA...?!

I WAS WEAK.
I do want Hikari to be happy.
AGAIN, SALOME-CHAN..... I'M SORRY.
N-.....
NO, THAT'S NOT TRUE.

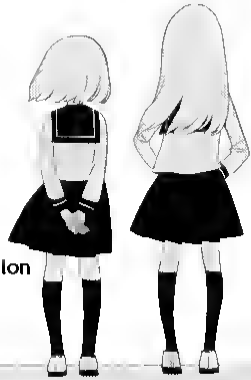
but I want it to be while I'm by her side.
THAT MUST HAVE BEEN MY PUNISHMENT FOR WANTING YOU ALL TO MYSELF, SALOME-CHAN.

And when she's sad, I want to be there for her, too.

End

Hakamada Mera

Salomelic
chapter 2



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Salomelic

そろめりっく

袴田めら

Presented by Mera Hakamada

POOF
WOW!
THERE!
POOF!
I LOVE CHOCO-LATE!!
IT'S SWEET! YUM!

Keep going. Don't stop.
Keep wanting. Don't stop being honest with yourself.
Keep looking for more.
Eat your fill!

SMILE
OH... I'M GLAD.

UGH, WHAT AN ODD DREAM...
I'LL GO WASH MY FACE.

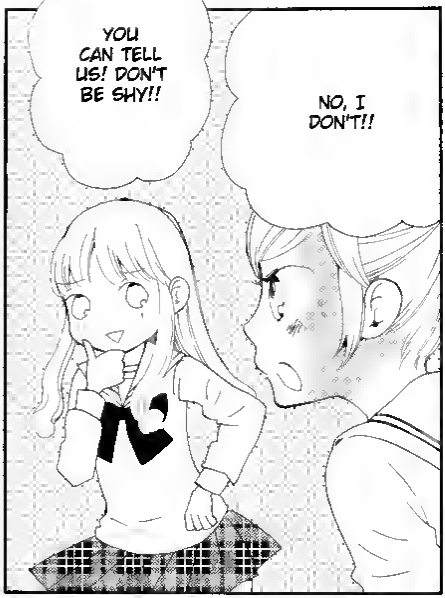
BEE EEP
EEP EEP
EEP EEP EEP
EEP EEP EEP
EEP
Give yourself over to your desire ...

Some random guy
UGH, MY HEAD HURTS ...
Urgh Ngh Mmgh
Salome's mom, Kurokawa Meiko (36 years old)
SNORRRE SNORRRE

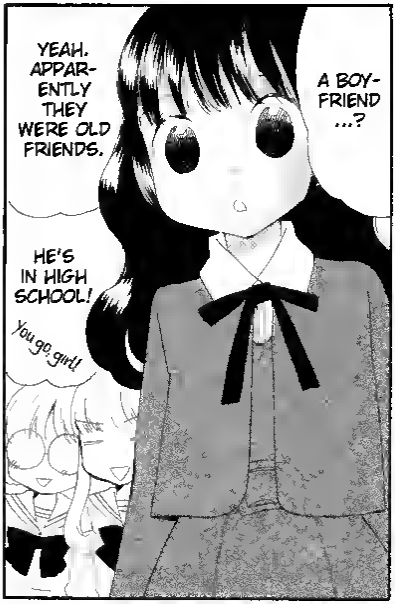
WOW!
DING DONG DING DONG
THAT REALLY HAPPENED?
YOUR MOM IS REALLY SOME-THING!
THEY REEKED OF ALCOHOL, YOU KNOW... AND ANYWAY, IT MADE ME UNCOMFORTABLE!
SEEING MY MOM BRING A MAN HOME...
GAVE ME THE CREEPS...
OH, YOU POOR THING.
WELL, CHEER UP! IT JUST MEANS YOUR MOM IS A WOMAN.
ANYWAY, I HAVE A REQUEST ...♡
WHAT ...?

HONESTLY!
WE WANT MORE CHOCOLATE! ♡
POOF POOF
OOH!
POOF
I LOVE CHOCOLATE!
YAY!
I'LL START WITH YOU!

I ALREADY HAD A PIECE. IT WAS DELICIOUS!
DON'T YOU WANT ANY, HIKARI?
Yum!
DON'T WORRY, WE'RE HAPPY TO EAT YOUR SHARE IF YOU DON'T WANT IT! ♡
OH...
WELL, I'D BETTER GET GOING!
DO YOU HAVE CRAM SCHOOL?
NO, IT'S NOT THAT.
OH, I GET IT!


YOU CAN TELL US! DON'T BE SHY!!
NO, I DON'T!!

WHAT?
YOU HAVE A BOYFRIEND, HUH?


YEAH. APPARENTLY THEY WERE OLD FRIENDS.
A BOYFRIEND ...?
HE'S IN HIGH SCHOOL!
You go, girl!

OKAY, SEE YOU TOMORROW!!
ARGH! I'LL SEE YOU ALL TOMORROW. GOODBYE!!
smirk
smirk

AND SHE'S NICE TO EVERY-ONE.
OF COURSE THEY ARE! SHE'S CUTE.
PLUS SHE GETS GOOD GRADES, AND SHE'S ATHLETIC, TOO.
A LOT OF GUYS ARE INTO HIKARI, YOU KNOW.
NOT TO MENTION THAT BODY! SHE'S WAY AHEAD OF THE REST OF US JUNIOR HIGH GIRLS.
HUH?
YOU KNOW...
Oh. She's nice to everyone...

SHE'S GOT THE PERFECT PROPORTIONS!! SLENDER WAIST, AND A BIG CHEST!!
WHAT?!
YOU SHOULD'VE SEEN HER IN SWIMMING LESSONS LAST YEAR!
BLUSH

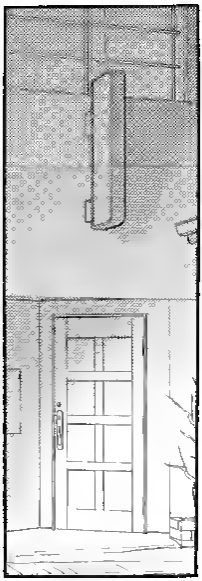
COME ON, LET'S GO TO THE CONVEN-IENCE STORE!!
IT'S NOT A CONVENI-ENCE STORE. IT'S A SUPER-MARKET.
Kyahaha!
It closes at 10, but it still counts as a convenience store!!

WHY ARE YOU TURNING RED, SALOME?
YOU'RE SO NAIVE.
STOP IT!

Love...
TV
Hmm...
I've never given a thought to romance.
I can't even imagine it. I could never fall in love with anyone who couldn't stand to be alone.
Bye-!
I don't want to be like Mom.

flip...
SALOME-CHAN!
!
SALOME-CHAN.
OH...? MAYBE SHE DIDN'T HEAR ME.

"IMPORTANT" IN ENGLISH
IS "JUUYOU" IN JAPANESE
"ENOUGH" IN ENGLISH...
enough



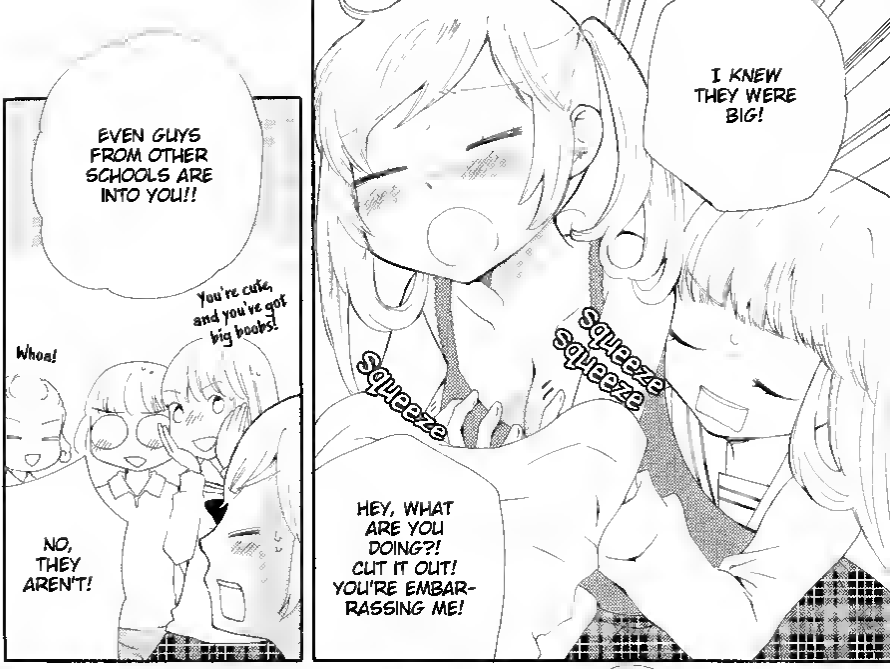
I'M PROB-ABLY...
It feels like... I'm in shock.

THEY WERE HOLDING HANDS.

Someone who didn't have to depend on anyone.
Who could affirm herself instead of looking to other people for validation. An adult. So why...?
I thought she was the sort of person who didn't mind being alone.
disappointed in Hikari.
Her time...
Her time is wasted on him.
Why is she even bothering with a boring guy like him?
Is she taking pity on him, out of kindness? He couldn't possibly be controlling her, right?

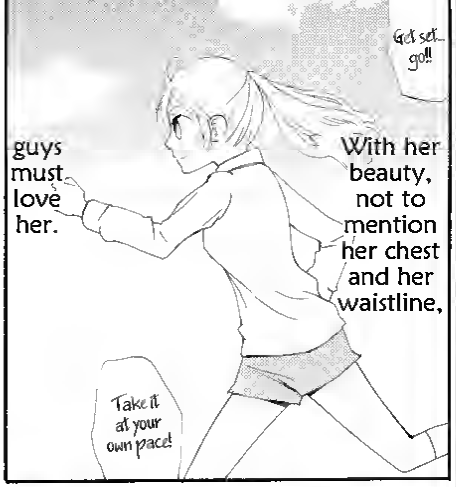
Just her time?
Her feelings...?
Her body?
.....!!
Hikari was crazy about my magic in my dream.
But in real life, she only ate one piece.
Girls' Changing Room
That hurt.

UGH, GYM SUCKS.
YEAH.
I CAN'T RUN A WHOLE KILOMETER!
YOU'RE GREAT AT RUNNING LONG DISTANCES, THOUGH, HIKARI!
NAH, NOT REALLY!
RAWR!
URK!!
!
GROPE


EVEN GUYS FROM OTHER SCHOOLS ARE INTO YOU!!
You're cute, and you've got big boobs!
Whoa!
NO, THEY AREN'T!
I KNEW THEY WERE BIG!
Squeeze
Squeeze
Squeeze
HEY, WHAT ARE YOU DOING?! CUT IT OUT! YOU'RE EMBARRASSING ME!

NO, I HAVEN'T! ARE YOU EVEN LISTENING TO ME?!
OOH, YOU'RE BLUSHING! THAT MEANS YOU'VE DONE STUFF WITH HIM, RIGHT?! OMIGOD!!
BLUSH
HOW FAR HAVE YOU GONE WITH YOUR BOYFRIEND?!
WHAT?!

She *does* look grown-up...
I sup-pose.


Get set... go!!
guys must love her.
With her beauty, not to mention her chest and her waistline,
Take it at your own pace!

And pretty.
Hikari is cute.

How repulsive...
Ugh, it's like they're defiling her.

Hikari is nice,
so if he asked...
I bet she would...
No! No.
...No!
Stop...!!

HERE, HAVE SOME WATER!
THE TEACHER SAID IT MIGHT BE HEATSTROKE.
OH! THANK GOODNESS YOU CAME TO. HOW ARE YOU FEELING?
HOW DO YOU FEEL?
...THANKS.

...HOT, AND MY CHEST FEELS FUNNY.
...I'M DIZZY, TOO. I MIGHT HAVE A FEVER.
OH.
MAYBE YOU DO HAVE HEATSTROKE, THEN.

DMP
DMP
DMP
HIKARI
...
HMM?
YOU DON'T LIKE CHOCOLATE, DO YOU?

IF YOU WANTED...
I WOULD ...
YES, I DO.
HMM? WHAT?
...NO, NEVER MIND.
... DON'T GO.
OKAY, I'M GOING BACK TO CLASS NOW.
BE SURE AND GET SOME REST!
HUH?

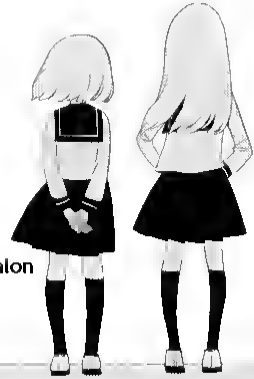
NEVER MIND.
If you wanted, I would save my magic just for you.

I wish you would devote your time, your heart, your body... to me alone.
There's no ignoring my feelings now. Hikari...

to get you to do what I want.
It turns out I'm no different from him. Here I am, wishing I could take advantage of your kindness
to control you.
that I want
I've realized now
End

Hakamada Mera

Salomelic
chapter 3



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Salomelic

さろめりっく

袴田めら

Presented by Mera Hakamada

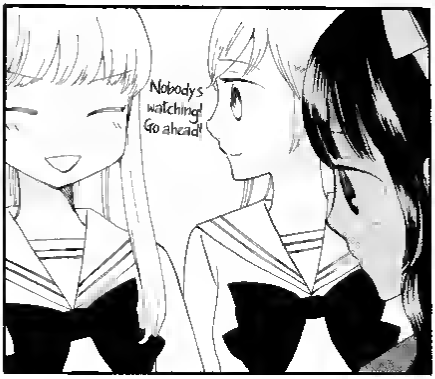
WHY DON'T WE BUY YOU A NEW UNIFORM, SALOME?
Mother
Kurokawa Meiko
HUH? BUT HOW WILL WE AFFORD IT?
AREN'T WE BROKE?
NO, WE'RE NOT!
OH?
AS A MATTER OF FACT ……

Eeeek!
Eek! I really said it!!
I might be getting married again!!
We might be able to stay here!!
HE CAN'T HOLD HIS LIQUOR,
BUT HE'LL BE A GOOD PROVIDER!
NO.
HMM? DID YOU SAY SOMETHING JUST NOW?
I SAID NO!!
BESIDES, YOU'RE JUST GOING TO BREAK UP WITH HIM ANYWAY, AREN'T YOU?!
SALOME .....

I'M SORRY THAT I'VE MOVED US AROUND SO OFTEN. BUT I CAN'T STAND TO BE ALONE ANYMORE.
SIGH.....
WILL I BE PUTTING ON A NEW UNIFORM SOON?
"IT LOOKS DARK AND MYSTERIOUS..."
"I LIKE YOUR UNIFORM. IT SUITS YOU! IT'S WONDERFUL."
THIS ONE WASN'T SO BAD, THOUGH .....
MORNING,

MORNING!
HI!
BADUM BADUM
POUNCE
EEP!!
Salome-chan!
CLASS IS CANCELED THIS PERIOD! WE HAVE STUDY HALL INSTEAD
FIRST PERIOD WILL BE STUDY HALL
DO THESE WORKSHEETS
OH, SWEET!
OH!
I got these worksheets for us.
I HEARD YAMADA-SENSEI'S OUT WITH A COLD.
SALOME, SORRY TO BUG YOU AGAIN...

I realized how I really feel about Hikari...
Ever since


Nobody's watching! Go ahead!

BUT I WANT SOME MORE CHOCO-LATE!
AGAIN?!

I can't seem to relax..... My heart is always pounding like crazy. It hurts!

I got so nervous, I messed up the spell!
GAH!
WHERE'S THE CHOCOLATE?!

.....!
GLINT
WHA ...?

When I'm with Hikari,
HOW MUCH LONGER IS IT GOING TO TAKE?!

I don't feel like myself anymore.
SALOME-CHAN...

WHAT'S WRONG? YOU'RE BRIGHT RED.....
Oh, no!

touches my forehead.
OH, YOU'RE BURNING UP!

Once Hikari
YOU WEREN'T FEELING SO GOOD THE OTHER DAY, EITHER.....
DO YOU HAVE A FEVER?

she's going to bring hers close to compare them.
S-

WH-WHAT'S WRONG, SALOME-CHAN?
SHOVE
STOP!
GRAB

YOU'RE SO HOT..... YOU MUST HAVE A FEVER.
OH?
IF I DO HAVE A COLD, I DON'T WANT YOU TO CATCH IT!
COME WITH ME TO THE INFIRMARY, OKAY?
THAT'S PROBABLY A GOOD IDEA.
WE HAVE STUDY HALL NOW ANYWAY.
Argh!

Honestly!
SENSEI?
HMM, THERE'S NOBODY HERE
HERE, LIE DOWN ON THIS BED!!
YOU SHOULD TAKE YOUR RIBBON OFF.
ALL RIGHT ...
C'MON, LIE BACK.

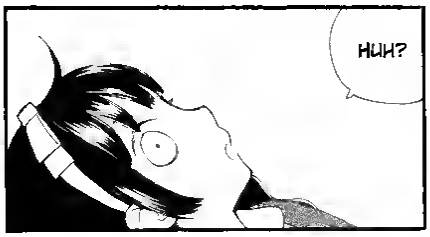
PUSH
THUD

Hikari has no idea
how much I'm struggling to hold myself back.
How desperately I'm fighting the urge to touch her.
DOES THAT FEEL BETTER?

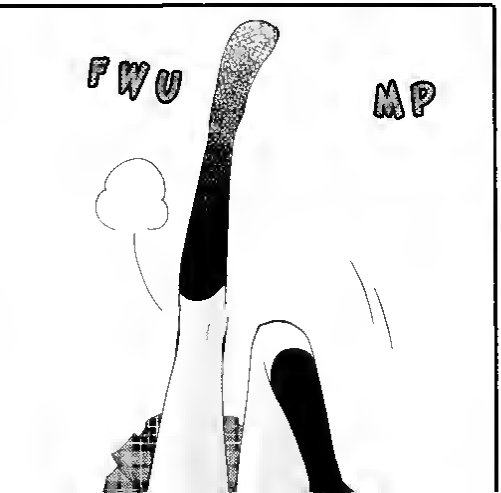
It's driving me mad.
HIKARI .....
HUH? OH...
HOW ARE THINGS WITH YOUR BOYFRIEND?
WE HARDLY SEE EACH OTHER.
ACTUALLY ...

WE BROKE UP.
.....
REALLY?!
YEAH. I DON'T THINK I WAS READY TO DATE YET.
I DON'T REALLY GET WHY PEOPLE DO IT .....
So I was right about her.....!
Oh.....!!

She *is* the sort of girl who can stand on her own two feet.
Who doesn't mind being alone.


HUH?

She wouldn't let someone else control her!!
MAYBE I'LL HAVE A NAP, TOO. WE'RE ONLY MISSING STUDY HALL.


FWU
MP

Wha.....?!
ROLL

A-
AGAIN
.....?

ZZZ...

SHE'S SO PRETTY .....
LOOK AT THOSE LONG EYE-LASHES
I want to touch her. But if that's not possible,
I at least want to be of use to her.

I'm contradicting myself now.
Isn't there something I can do to make her happy?
Something nobody else can do?

I want her to need me.
To depend on me so much that she can't live without me.
Zzz
Zzz
It doesn't make sense. I like independent people,
so if Hikari were to let me control her, she wouldn't be the girl I loved anymore.

FW
UM
P
ZZZZ

WHAT BROUGHT THIS ON?

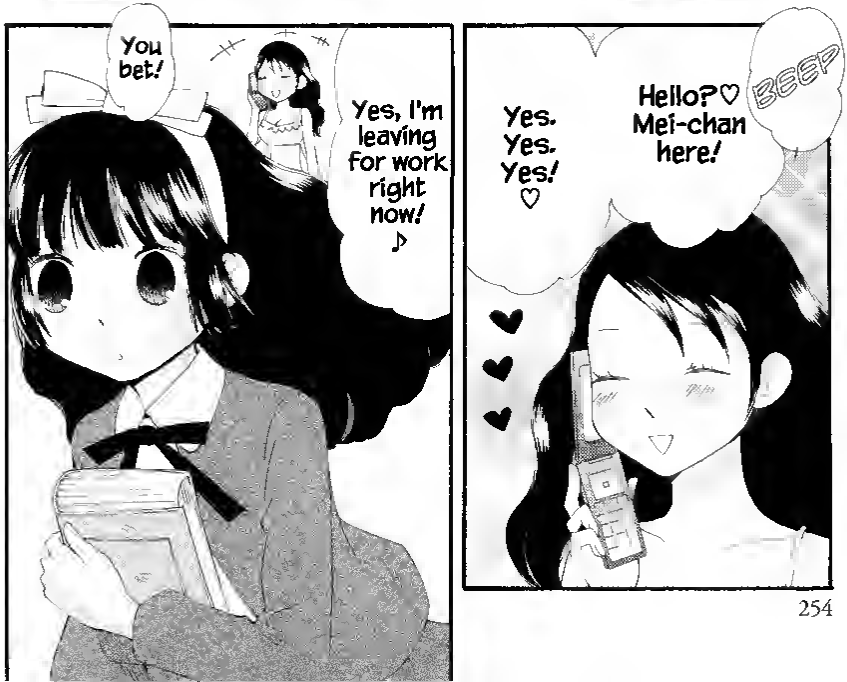
MOM, I WANT YOU TO TEACH ME SOME MORE POWERFUL SPELLS!

I READ A LOT OF BOOKS AND LEARNED TO DO SOME MAGIC, BUT IT'S HARD!

SOMETHING MORE USEFUL THAN MAKING CHOCOLATE APPEAR OUT OF THIN AIR!
PLEASE TEACH ME SOMETHING! A SPELL I CAN USE TO HELP SOMEONE!
I want to use my magic to help Hikari, since that's something only I can do!

THAT'S ALL A SHAM, OF COURSE.
HUH?! BUT YOUR FORTUNE-TELLING.....
I DO A LITTLE FOR CLIENTS IN THE EVENINGS ONCE IN A WHILE. THAT'S ALL.
Palm reading and the like.
I CAN'T. I HAVEN'T BEEN ABLE TO DO MAGIC FOR A LONG TIME NOW.
shhk
WE KUROKAWAS ARE PRETTY MUCH ONLY ABLE TO USE MAGIC WHEN WE'RE CHILDREN, YOU KNOW.

YOU CAN'T BE SERIOUS.
THAT'S JUST HOW IT IS.
ONCE YOU GROW UP, YOU WON'T BE ABLE TO USE IT ANYMORE.
WHERE'S THE CHOCOLATE?!
I GOT NERVOUS .....
riting ringaling ringalingaling!


BEEP
Hello?♡ Mei-chan here!
Yes. Yes. Yes! ♡
Yes, I'm leaving for work right now! ♪
You bet!

PANT
PANT
HUSSHHH
FWOOSH

I can't do magic anymore!
PANT
PANT
NOTHING'S COMING OUT.....
PANT
.....

a waste of time.

I thought magic was just

NOOO .....!
But somewhere along the way, it had become a source of my self-confidence.....
NO.....
NOOO .....!

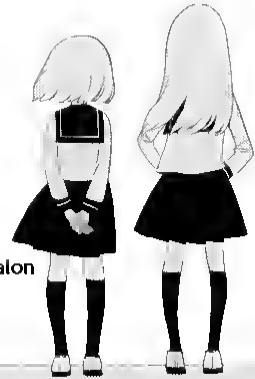
SO THAT WAS ALL..... JUST A BUNCH OF LIES?
HIC
HIC
H-HOW COULD YOU?!
NO! NO!!
TRUDGE
TRUDGE
DON'T BOTHER CALLING ME AGAIN!!
FORGET IT!!
BOOP
SALOME?!
I'M SO GLAD TO SEE YOU!!

I'M DUMPING THAT JERK!!
LET'S GET OUT OF THIS TOWN, OKAY?
WE'LL MAKE A NEW START, JUST YOU AND ME. YOU'LL COME WITH ME, WON'T YOU?!
YES.....

End

Hakamada Mera

Salomelic
chapter 4



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Final Chapter

MORI-SAN MARK'S
MOVING BOXES
GOODNESS! WHAT'S WRONG?
I'M THE ONE WHO JUST HAD HER HEART BROKEN, YOU KNOW!
DON'T TELL ME YOU'RE DEPRESSED JUST BECAUSE YOU CAN'T USE YOUR MAGIC ANYMORE?
WHAT WERE YOU HOPING TO DO WITH IT?

I would make it so Hikari couldn't live without me.
If I had the power to do anything in the world...

MORNING, SALOME-CHAN!
MORNING! DID YOU SEE THAT SHOW YESTERDAY? CAN YOU BELIEVE WHO THE CULPRIT WAS?!
YES! I KNOW, RIGHT?! IT WAS SOMEONE CLOSE TO THEM, AGAIN! DON'T THE WRITERS HAVE ANY IMAGI-NATION?
Even this silly chatter will be...

HEY, GUYS! WE SHOULD MAKE SURE WE'RE IN THE SAME GROUP!
GONE IN A FEW DAYS.
THE CLASS TRIP TO THE KUROBE DAM!
HUH? FOR WHAT?
WHOA! WHAT SHOULD WE WEAR?
I HEARD THAT SNOW BUILDS UP ON THE DAM IN SOME PARTS.
I'LL BE GONE BY THEN.

I'LL HAVE TO LEAVE EVERYONE.
But once I'm far away, I won't have to agonize over Hikari anymore.
SO EVEN THOUGH THINGS ARE KIND OF TOUGH RIGHT NOW,
I JUST NEED TO HANG ON A LITTLE LONGER .....

Until I can
seal these feelings away.

I wish that she could feel truly fulfilled for the first time in her life just by being around me.
As Hikari's friend, I want her to be happy...
But before I knew it, I couldn't stand the thought of her being happy without me.

But now that I can't use magic any-more,
I'm worthless, so there's no point in trying.
I'm going to shove these feelings down and go away.

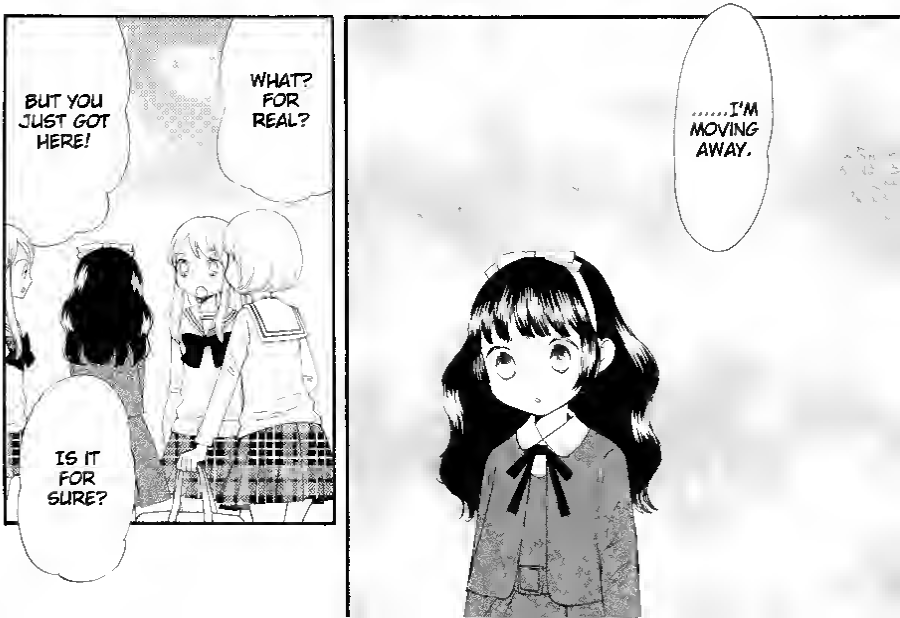
SALOME-CHAN, IS SOMETHING WRONG?
CLASP

ARE YOU SURE?
DMP
drop
EVERY-THING IS FINE!

YOU'RE NOT YOURSELF TODAY.
DMP
DMP
My fingers could betray me. They could let slip what's in my heart.

"I want you to need me so much that you can't bear to be without me."

I can't tell her that.
YOU CAN TELL ME ANYTHING!
GO AHEAD!

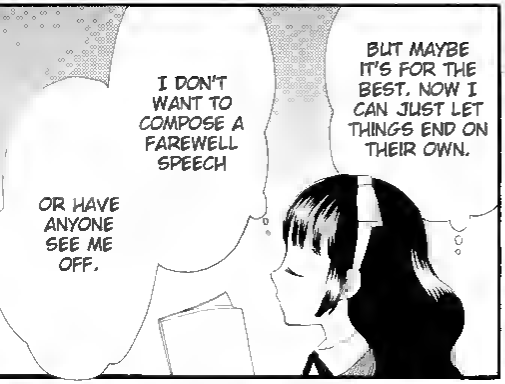

.....I'M MOVING AWAY.
WHAT? FOR REAL?
BUT YOU JUST GOT HERE!
IS IT FOR SURE?

IT'S ALL RIGHT. I'M USED TO IT. I KNEW NOT TO RUN OUT AND BUY A NEW UNIFORM.
DON'T SAY THAT, SALOME-CHAN.
Good-byes are sad,
so I didn't want to get to know anyone.
IF YOU'RE NOT MOVING TOO FAR, WE CAN COME VISIT YOU!
AND WE CAN TRY TO GO TO THE SAME HIGH SCHOOL!
YEAH.
I didn't want to *like* anyone here.
OH, YEAH, AND WE CAN WRITE LETTERS, TOO!

DON'T BOTHER!

Hikari's letters will be about all the experiences
she's having without me.

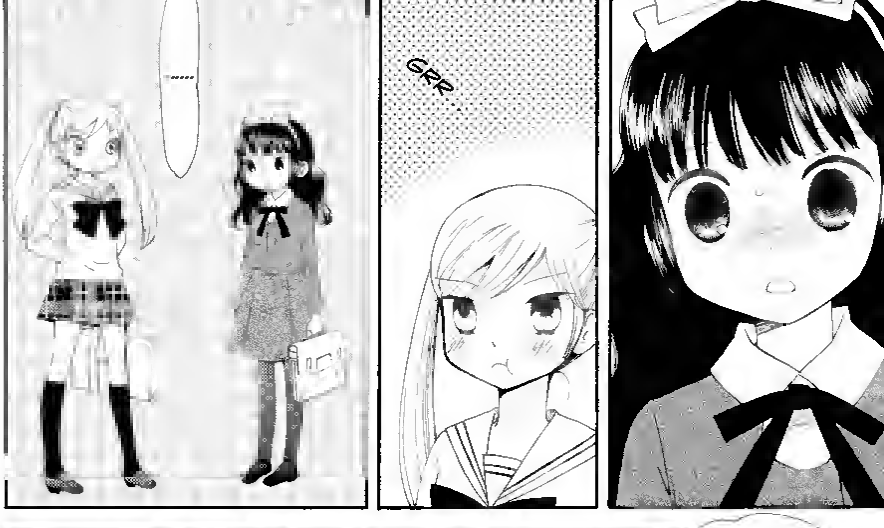
Why would I ever want to read something like that?


I DON'T WANT TO COMPOSE A FAREWELL SPEECH
OR HAVE ANYONE SEE ME OFF.
BUT MAYBE IT'S FOR THE BEST. NOW I CAN JUST LET THINGS END ON THEIR OWN.

THAT WAS A TERRIBLE THING TO SAY.

My greatest fear is that Hikari will discover how I feel about her.
I like Hikari. I *love* her.
I wish she wanted us to build a future together...
One where I would be essential to her, where I would be the person she turned to in a crisis.

I HAVE TO GET AWAY FROM HER
SO I CAN FORGET HER
I need to bury these feelings deeper.


.....
GRR.

W-WELL, IT'S NOT LIKE WE EVER PROMISED TO WALK HOME TOGETHER EVERY DAY.
YOU TRIED TO LEAVE WITHOUT ME!

TALK TO ME, SALOME-CHAN!
YOU'RE HIDING SOMETHING ELSE FROM ME, AREN'T YOU?!

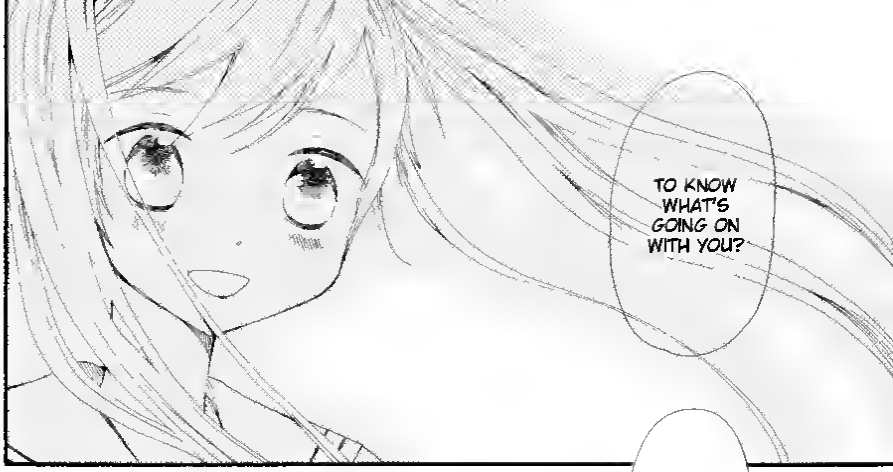
I'M YOUR FRIEND!
I am *not* going to tell her, even if it kills me.....
WAIT! I'LL TELL YOU A SECRET, TOO. HOW ABOUT THAT?
NO!
IF I TELL YOU .....
YOU'LL FEEL NOTHING BUT CONTEMPT FOR ME.

SALOME-CHAN...
I DIDN'T MEAN TO MAKE YOU CRY, SO...
.....
BLUSH
?!
OH..... I'M SORRY.

NO MATTER HOW FAR APART WE ARE, WE'LL STILL BE FRIENDS.
SO PLEASE DON'T TRY TO MAKE YOURSELF FORGET ABOUT US.
YOU DON'T UNDER-STAND, HIKARI.
YOU'RE THE ONE WHO'S GOING TO FORGET ABOUT ME FIRST.
BECAUSE I LIKE YOU SO MUCH ……!

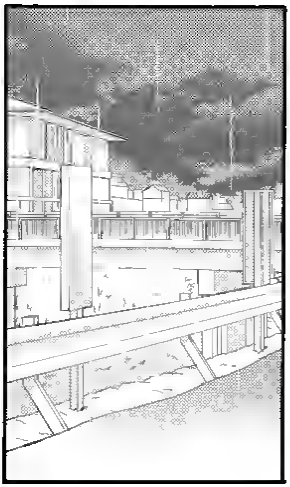
It just slipped out. I couldn't stop it.
Please don't read too much into it, Hikari!
Oh, no...
Please don't pick up on how I really feel!!
SALOME-CHAN...

I ALREADY KNEW THAT!
DIDN'T I TELL YOU
THAT I DON'T NEED MAGIC
Huh?


TO KNOW WHAT'S GOING ON WITH YOU?

A folding umbrella
IT'S RAINING!
I'LL WALK YOU HOME, SALOME-CHAN.

What's going on?
LET'S TRUST
THAT EVEN IF WE'RE FAR APART...



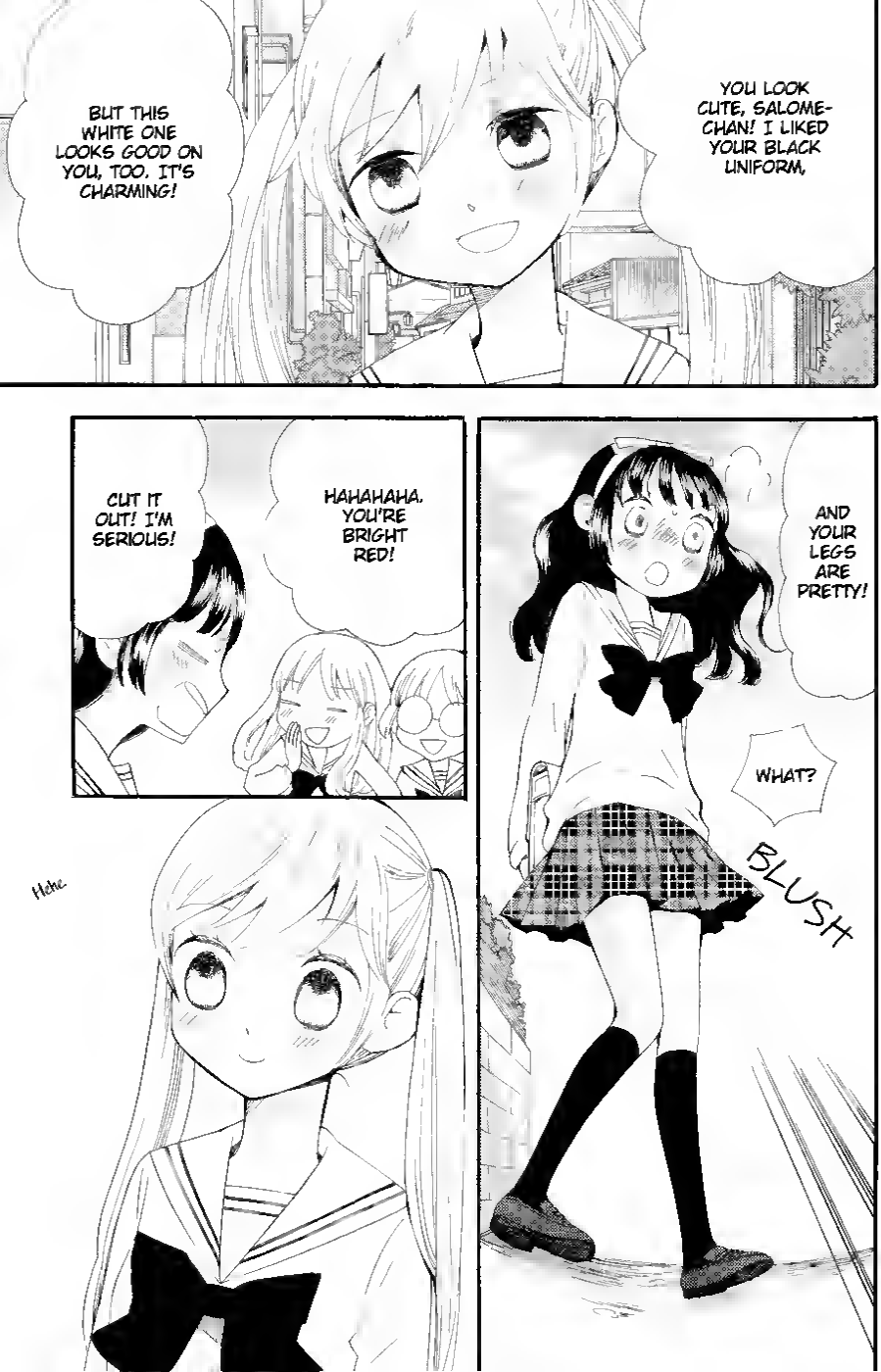
WE'LL BE ALL RIGHT.
What does all this mean .....?

WELCOME HOME, SALOME! ♡
UM, I HAVE SOME NEWS .....

FWISH
...THANK YOU FOR HAVING ME IN YOUR HOME.
HELLO?
HUH?! YOU'RE .....
OH?
UM.. CONGRATULATIONS!
WHAT?
HUH?
SO, THIS IS THE MAN YOU'RE SEEING, MA'AM?
GUESS WHAT? WE'RE BACK TOGETHER AGAIN, SO YOU AND I DON'T HAVE TO MOVE AFTER ALL! ♡
WE'RE IN LOVE!! ♡
HAHAHA DO FORGIVE ME

WHAT'S GOING ON?!
WE'RE NOT MOVING! WE CAN STAY HERE FOREVER! ♡
HE PROPOSED! ♡ MAKING IT THROUGH THAT ROCKY PATCH HAS MADE OUR RELATIONSHIP ALL THE STRONGER. ♡
ALIGH! YOU'RE ALWAYS LIKE THIS, MOM!
HMM? WHAT'S WRONG WITH THAT?
YOU HAVE A CRUSH ON A BOY RIGHT NOW, DON'T YOU?
YOU MUST UNDERSTAND HOW I FEEL.
NO, I DON'T!
OH, YES, YOU DO! YOU SEE,
WE KUROKAWAS LOSE OUR MAGIC THE FIRST TIME WE FALL IN LOVE.

IT LOOKS REAL CUTE LIKE THAT! ♡
NO, TWO FOLDS IS JUST PERFECT!
MY SKIRT FEELS TOO SHORT.
SALOME ……
PFFT!
Gyahahahaha!
THAT'S ENOUGH!
IT MAKES ME WANT TO PICK ON YOU!
IT'S HILARIOUS WHEN A HAUGHTY GIRL LIKE YOU DRESSES UP ALL CUTE!
NOW YOU GET TO WEAR THE SAME UNIFORM AS ALL OF US! ☆
I'M SO GLAD YOU DON'T HAVE TO MOVE!


YOU LOOK CUTE, SALOME-CHAN! I LIKED YOUR BLACK UNIFORM,
BUT THIS WHITE ONE LOOKS GOOD ON YOU, TOO. IT'S CHARMING!
AND YOUR LEGS ARE PRETTY!
WHAT?
BLUSH
HAHAHAHA. YOU'RE BRIGHT RED!
CUT IT OUT! I'M SERIOUS!
Hehe.

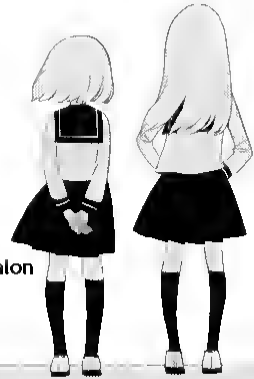
EHEHE! WELL, SALOME-CHAN AND I HAVE AN AGREE-MENT, SO...
HUH? A SECRET? I WANT TO KNOW, TOO!
OH, I ALMOST FORGOT,
I OWE YOU A SECRET NOW, SALOME-CHAN.
I'LL TELL YOU SOMEDAY,
SINCE YOU TOLD ME YOURS.

Aww, Salome-chan is so cute! So, her magic is fading because she's in love...
She blushes when I hold her hand,
and she gets nervous when I touch her.
ZZZ
What will happen when I tell her my secret?
Infirmary

I wonder...
Hey, Kurokawa changed her uniform!
What?!
END

Hakamada Mera

Salomelic
chapter 5



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salomelic

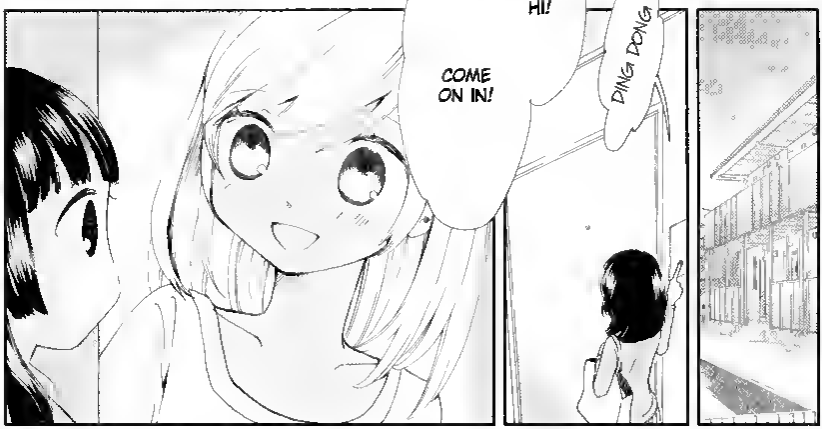
hakamada mera

Salome Panics
and met Hikari.
I transferred schools,
The two of us went to the same high school,
These two went to a nearby private school.
and then...

WHOA... CHEER UP, SALOME-CHAN!
Hikari got into college, but I didn't. Now I have to study and try again next year.
Gaaaah!

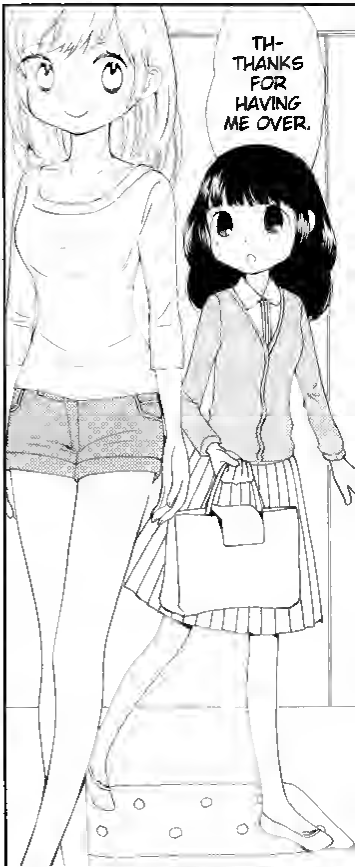
I'LL SEE YOU LATER.
UH-HUH ,,,,,,
You can do it, Salome! Keep at it!
So I'm going to a college prep school.

Salome-chan,
why don't you come spend the night? It might be a nice pick-me-up. I'll be waiting!♡
Hikari
Salome-chan, why don't you come spend the night? It might be a nice pick-me-up I'll be waiting!♡
Hikari
WITH THAT TO LOOK FORWARD TO . . . I CAN MAKE IT THROUGH THIS!
CLENCH
Hikari has no idea
how much I'm looking forward to this.


DING DONG
HI!
COME ON IN!

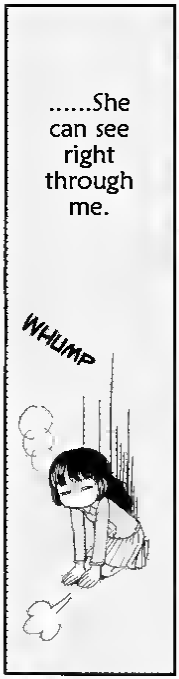
DO YOU MIND IF I USE YOUR BATH-ROOM?
GO AHEAD! IT'S RIGHT THROUGH THAT DOOR.

HER APART-MENT IS SO PRETTY!

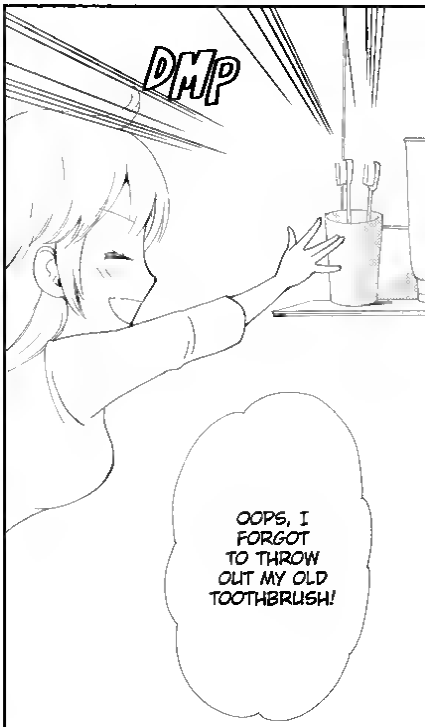

TH-THANKS FOR HAVING ME OVER.

KACHIK
THE SEAT IS UP, AND THERE ARE
TWO TOOTH-BRUSHES ,,,,,,
Has Hikari..... had a guy staying here.....?

I CLEANED THE TOILET SINCE I KNEW YOU WERE COMING OVER!
PEEK


.....She can see right through me.
WHUMP

SMILE
.....YOU HAVE NOTHING TO WORRY ABOUT, OKAY?


DMP
OOPS, I FORGOT TO THROW OUT MY OLD TOOTHBRUSH!

END

I can't decide on a title for this manga I'm drawing!

Like so

I was able to draw this story at my own pace, sometimes fast and sometimes slow, so it's nice to see it all collected into one volume.

By the way, I had trouble choosing a title for this one. So I brought it up one day when I was in the car with some friends,

Thank you for picking up this book! ♡

I wasn't getting enough exercise, so now I'm all gung-ho about doing calisthenics along with radio programs*!

Hello I'm Hakamada Mera

*note: In Japan, public radio broadcasts a calisthenics routine with musical accompaniment in the early morning.

You do, right?

Or is it just me?

We've all been there, right?

You all know how lonely it feels when one of your friends gets a boyfriend.

The extra, "Salome Panics," is based on a true story. It's something that really happened to me years ago.

Salome.

Call it Salomelic then

What's the main characters name?

Don't worry! It will be fine!

Oh... Urk... Well, it's like this, and that... ...And then this other part... Waaah!

Out with it!

But—

Huh..? Um, it's a little embarrassing to say... ♡

What is it about?

And there you have it.

They also let me draw a cover for an issue of Hiran itself. ♡ I'll be continuing to draw manga for it, too, of course! I hope you enjoy it! ♥

Two books in a row!! Yaaay!

And since I have another book coming out soon, Eden no Higashitotsuka 1 (published by Houbunsha), they let me do a couple of doodles for it on the book band*! Please check it out if you'd like!

*note: The "obi," a strip of paper that goes over the bottom of the book jacket.

The cake from that place was delicious! I'd love to have it again sometime.

(Hey, why am I writing about that here?!)

I'll have to buy some more to take back to the other editors...

Yum!

I'm indebted to my editor, Kumagai-san

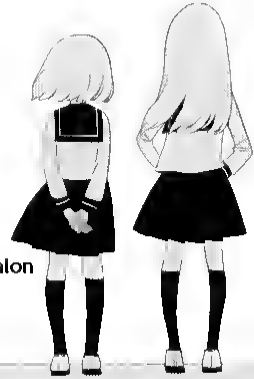
We liked Hikari a lot too,
even though we never said so
Yeah. We were fighting over her before Salome came along
That's right! Salome stole her right from under our noses.
She sure did.
I'd like to thank:
My editor, Kumagai-san;
The book designer, arcoinc-sama,
My assistants, Suga-san, Chie-san, and others;
All the friends and family members who supported me,
And all of you out there reading this!!
And these two stayed friends for even longer.. Maybe.

First Published In:

Chapter 1	Hirari vol. 3, 2011
Chapter 2	Hirari vol. 4, 2011
Chapter 3	Hirari vol. 5, 2011
Chapter 4	Hirari vol. 6, 2012
Chapter 5	Hirari vol. 7, 2012
Salome Panics	This Volume

Hakamada Mera

Salome Panics



Scanned and translated by: Sailor Avalon
Edited by: Nik_
QC'd by: SpaceTart, Anonko,
Sailor Avalon, and Rosa_Gigantea

ひらり、

ピュア百合アンソロジー

Vol. 3

Cover
遠田志帆

Color illust
竹美家らら

Comic
椋田めら
仙石真子
桑田乃梨子
さきたあすか
前田とも
夢こよみ
TONO
橋本みつる
夏乃あゆみ
ふかさくえみ
スカーレット・ベリ子
藤生
犬丸
末幡
藤沢 誠
石嶺くるみ
大沢あまね

Novel
栗城 偲
(イラスト 鈴木有布子)

HIRARI. vol.4

2011 SPRING ISSUE

YOUR SMILE MAKES ME HAPPY!

ピュア百合アンソロジー

ひらり、

扉 須扉子
梅田めら
カザマアヤミ
雨隠ギド
扉扉ひろみ
橋田乃狐子
扉たまき
雨国ばなな
橋本みつる
仙石實子
TONO
ささたあすか
扉生
犬丸
温田志帆
大沢あまね
吉田丸 悠
Novel 一種ミチ
イラスト 扉
Cover ill. 西 炯子
Color ill. 優

HIRARI, vol.5

2011 SUMMER ISSUE

YOUR SMILE MAKES ME HAPPY!

ピュア百合アンソロジー

ひらり、

HIRARI, vol.6

2012 WINTER ISSUE

YOUR SMILE MAKES ME HAPPY!

ピュア百合アンソロジー

ひらり、

紺野キタ
四ツ原フリコ
佐藤沙緒理
雨隠ギド
雁 須磨子

高嶋ひろみ
袴田めら
桑田乃梨子
さまだあすか
三嶋くるみ
前田とも
蘇生
平尾アウリ
仙石真子
大沢あまね
茉崎ミユキ
犬丸
スカーレット・ベリ子

COVER ILLUSTRATION
釣巻和
COLOR PINUP
水上カオリ

HIRARI. 2012 SPRING ISSUE VOL.7

YURI SMILE MAKES ME HAPPY!

ピュア百合アンソロジー

ひらり。

狗田めち
高嶋ひろみ
紺野キタ
今村麻子
平尾アウリ
四ツ原フリコ
藤たまき
TONO
桑田乃梨子
橋本みつる

仁直ちなみ
宝嶋 璃
大沢あまね
朝丘みねぎ
ふかさくえみ
大丸
末帽
吉田丸 悠
麻友紗央里

Cover Illustration & Color Pinup
高嶋ひろみ

Lililicious~may its fragrance encompass you
lililicious@hanmail.net, http://lililicious.net